



1981

ANNUAL REPORT of the AREA PLANNING BOARD of PALM BEACH COUNTY

JANUARY 1982

1981 OVERVIEW OF AREA PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITIES

A MESSAGE FROM APB CHAIR- PERSON - CHARLOTTE DURANTE

First and foremost, to the members of the APB, the staff and committees, I sincerely thank you for your participation and dedication to make my first year as chair of the APB a most rewarding experience. Special thanks also to other agencies, officials and the legislative delegation for their continued support and cooperation. The past year has been an active one in many area programs.

- A-95 Review
- Work Study Program
- Housing
- Water Quality Management Planning
- Local Government Planning Assistance
- Economic Development
- Transportation Planning
- Transit Development Program
- Research

For the next year, we have hopes and confidence that an equally successful trend will prevail.

Charlotte Durante

COMPREHENSIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

A-95 Review

The Area Planning Board is the certified A-95 Review Agency for Palm Beach County. In this role, the Area Planning Board (APB) reviews all federal grant applications affecting Palm Beach County which are governed by Federal Office of Manage-



A message from APB Chairperson — CHARLOTTE DURANTE
ment and Budget Circular A-95. This Circular was created to promote cooperation and coordination between and among all levels of government. During the 1980 calendar year, over \$227 million in federal programs were reviewed through a process of notification of affected governments and final review and recommendation by the Area Planning Board.

Work Study Program

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Work Study Program is an on-going publicly financed activity administered locally by the APB in conjunction with Florida Atlantic University. This program assists eligible graduate students in meeting educational expenses while gaining valuable professional experience of twelve (12) to twenty (20) hours of work per week in a public agency. The goal of this program, the APB and the Work Study Coordinating Committee

is to give students practical experience in the field of public sector planning and management and eventually place students in jobs in their respective fields.

Housing

The Area Planning Board continued its role as the "701" Comprehensive Planning Grant recipient of Palm Beach County. Two (2) housing reports completed by the APB in 1980 gave insight into the changing housing conditions of Palm Beach County. The Housing Market in Palm Beach County: 1970 to 1980 reported that the average value of single family housing rose from \$20,500 in 1970 to over \$64,000 in 1980. This represents a larger increase than in the State and the Nation. Strategies for Neighborhood Rehabilitation/Revitalization analyzed the efforts of four (4) community development agencies in Palm Beach County and the impact that nearly \$30 million in Community Development Block Grant funds have had over the last six (6) years in the revitalization of targeted Neighborhood Strategy Areas.

Water Quality Management Planning

The Palm Beach County 208 Areawide Waste Treatment Management Plan as prepared and adopted by the APB in 1979 has continued to be implemented through a series of cooperative resolutions with Palm Beach County local governments on support of the 208 process. These resolutions set in motion a complicated process by which a lead agent and an interim lead agent can be designated. Also thirteen (13) recommended water quality implementation strategies were supported through these resolutions. Other programs include additional environmental control measures drafted, a BMP test program and implementation of the interim management system.

Local Government Planning Assistance

The Area Planning Board held a conference on the Local Government Comprehensive Planning Act of Florida, 1975. Members of the staff of the Department of Veterans and Community Affairs discussed with planners, administrative and elected officers of local governments in Palm Beach County the Florida planning mandate, its successes and shortcomings. As a result of the

shortcomings, several recommended amendments to the legislation were explained and discussed to enhance Florida's planning process.

Economic Development

The Area Planning Board took an active role in economic development information analysis and planning. Over 70 people participated in a seminar on Industrial Development Revenue Bonds. Later, a study outlining the approval process of IDRBs, and an inventory on other IDRB experiences in Florida was presented. Other projects included a Housing Market Analysis and an Industrial Development Guide to be completed in early 1982. All these programs stress diversification in the local economy if it is to continue its vitality.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The Transportation Planning Section continued to serve as the staff for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The MPO is responsible for transportation planning and programming for the urban areas of Palm Beach County. Federal funds for highway and transit improvements cannot be obtained without proper planning by the MPO.

As required by State law, a plan was developed to provide coordination of transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged. This plan was a result of the Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Study. The study recommended that the county provide coordination to better utilize existing transportation services now provided by various other agencies.

The staff has also begun development of a Year 2000 Cost Feasible Transportation Plan. This study involves computer projections of future traffic volumes for various roadway networks. Estimates of future funding and construction costs will be used to determine the affordable roadway system for the Year 2000.

The staff, in cooperation with COTRAN, completed an update of the Transit Development Program which reviewed the bus routes and operations. The study recommended service reductions which would save some \$2.5 million in the fifth year.

The Surveillance Program, which includes traffic counts at over 400 locations, air quality emissions, transit ridership, and roadway projects status continued.

RESEARCH

Much of the work program in 1981 was geared to the 1980 Census. Although the physical event of enumerating the population and its characteristics has been completed, activities based around the results of the Census will be a major part of the Research Section work program for several years. In 1981 we unsuccessfully challenged the Census Bureau's methodology which produced an apparent undercount for Palm Beach County. We also began using and disseminating basic population counts by race and Spanish origin for cities and census tracts. As we enter 1982 we eagerly await receipt of the more detailed block statistics data.

Having preliminary census counts and knowing how to use them meant that the State legislature, School Board, Board of County Commissioners, City of West Palm Beach and other citizens interested in reapportionment contacted the Research Section for maps and data to begin adjusting their respective election districts.

Of course dissemination of information on the characteristics of Palm Beach County remains the major responsibility of the Research Section. During 1981, almost 6,400 service contacts were recorded, or some 25 per day. This represents a 24% increase over 1980. Benefactors of this information include federal, state, and local governments; non-profit organizations and agencies; financial institutions; businesses; industries; realtors; professionals; educators and students; and the general public.

In its on-going statistical program, the Research Section published quarterly building permit activity summaries. These reports have been published since 1960. For the past 7 years, A Profile of Palm Beach County Municipalities has been issued to provide basic governmental, fiscal, and service data for each of the 37

municipalities in the County.

One major statistical publication, Maps, Graphs and Statistical Data, contains some of the most current and comprehensive data on the County. With a 1981 circulation of over 1700 copies, our report has traveled internationally to Canada, England, Germany, France and other European nations, and Central and South America.

The 1982 edition is similar in format to last year's document, but all data has been updated through at least 1980, and in some cases, 1981. Many data comparisons are available annually for the previous 10 years.

Just who uses a report like Maps, Graphs & Statistical Data? Anyone who wants to know such things as average temperature or rainfall in 1980; land area of the County; post offices and areas served by the 36 zip codes in the County; land area and population of municipalities including the latest census; 60 year population trends; 1980 census tract map and population; counts by census tract; housing values, 1970-1980; per capita income, 1970-1979; age, sex, race estimates for 1979; building permit summaries; small area population estimates & projections for 1979 and 1985-2000; details of proposed major residential developments; characteristics of visitors to the County; major hotel/motel facilities in the County; port and airport activity; agricultural production; cost of living index; retail sales by major category; selected characteristics of retail businesses in the County; major shopping facilities; major industries and employers; labor force characteristics; selected medical resources; public and private education facilities; parks and recreation centers; chambers of commerce in the County; and industrial parks in the County.

If you are a market analyst, business consultant, planner, forecaster, builder, developer, entrepreneur, realtor, engineer, or perhaps just an interested citizen, you can obtain this 112 page publication of maps, tables, lists, graphs and data, appropriately titled Maps, Graphs and Statistical Data, from the Area Planning Board at our office for \$15.00. Persons wishing a copy to be mailed to them should add \$1.60 for tax, postage and handling.



AREA PLANNING BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

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Thomas Altman	Appointed by: Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation
Fred O. Easley	Appointed by: Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation
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